

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the PATENT APPLICATION of:

Mätzler et al.

Application No.: 10/535,694

Filed: May 19, 2005

For: METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF
A SCREW, AND SCREW PRODUCED
ACCORDING TO SAID METHOD

Group: 3677

Examiner: Flemming Saether

Our File: SFS-PT061

(P0372US)

Date: April 12, 2007

DECLARATION OF CO-INVENTOR ERNST ROHNER
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

1. I, Ernst Rohner, am a co-inventor of the above-referenced patent application.
2. I have worked in the field of metallurgy and in particular cold forming of various metal parts including screws for 28 years. I hold a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Juventus Zurich University.
3. I am familiar with steel alloys and the designation of an ultra high-strength steel. Based on my experience and understanding of metallurgy and in particular cold forming various steel products from steel alloys including ultra high-strength steel, a person of ordinary skill in the art would understand the term ultra high-strength steel to mean a steel having yield strength of over 560 mpa.

4. Ultra high-strength steels are typically not cold formed in making screws, and in particular screws for indexable inserts where the strength of the screw is critical. This is due to the extremely high strength required and the fact that cold forming typically results in internal stresses and cracking when cold-forming ultra-high strength materials. Such screws typically include a machined interior tool engaging member in the head, requiring compensation in the screw design so that an appropriate high strength is achieved for this critical application.

5. I have reviewed U.S. Patent 2,084,079 to E.E. Clark. In my opinion, based on the reference having been filed on November 15, 1935, the cold forming process described in this prior art patent was for cold forming a medium or high-strength steel and was not directed to forming cold forming ultra high-strength steels.

6. In my experience over the last 28 years in this industry, ultra high-strength steels were formed into screws by machining the interior engaging member in the head.

7. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on the information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the likes so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001, and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the present application or any patent issued therefrom.

Date: 12 April 04



Ernst Rohner
SFS
General Manager
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